NEWS — FEATURES

Marching in memory: Winchester commemorates Memorial Day

SAOIRSE STALLINGS | CORRESPONDENT

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Winchester residents came out on May 26 to remember fallen members of the armed forces during Memorial Day ceremonies. WINCHESTER NEWS STAFF PHOTO/SAOIRSE STALLINGS

As red, white and blue flags waved from the onlookers camped o
sidewalk, Winchester's town center hummed with instruments a

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marching veterans this past Memorial Day. The parade started with words of remembrance for fallen soldiers who served for the United States and commenced the march through town.

Everyone was invited to participate in civic exercises after the parade, sponsored by the Winchester Veterans of Foreign Wars.

Winchester residents mingle at the Edward F. O'Connell Veterans War Memorial on May 26, following Memorial Day ceremonies. WINCHESTER NEWS STAFF PHOTO/SAOIRSE STALLINGS

The VFW's members care for the cause and celebration of individuals who served, one being Festus McDonough, who served for four years in the United States Marine Corps.

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"To me, it's very important that we do this and we show up so that way we remember everyone that paid the ultimate sacrifice for us. And if we're not leading the charge as veterans, how can we expect civilians to follow suit?" said McDonough. "It really brings a lot of satisfaction seeing all the civilians and the kids here and supporting us."

As a member of the Winchester VFW Post 3719, duties also include outreach through social media to urge veterans to participate and for locals to take interest in the holiday as an educational day.

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Stephen Campbell came out to Town Hall on Memorial Day in memory of his father and brother, who were both veterans. WINCHESTER NEWS STAFF PHOTO/SAOIRSE STALLINGS

Outside Winchester Town Hall, there is the Edward F. O'Connell Veterans War Memorial, created in 2009 in O'Connell's memory as a prior

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and active organizer in Winchester's Veterans Day and Memorial Day celebrations for over 30 years.

The monument has six tablets with over 4,000 names of veterans who have represented Winchester in various wars and conflicts since the Civil War. This is a place where locals can come and visit in memory of their family.

Stephen Campbell, a resident of Winchester, was at the memorial on Monday visiting the plaza to recognize his father and his brother who both served the country.

"He actually was shot down on an enemy-held island and the natives there banded together and got him from the enemy-held island across the ocean," Campbell said. "I was thinking about that because if he was captured, chances are he wouldn't have survived. That you know the vicissitudes, if you will, of life."

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Stephen Campbell searches for his father and brother on the memorial in front of Town Hall. WINCHESTER NEWS STAFF PHOTO/SAOIRSE STALLINGS

Minglers at the memorial had their own reasons for coming to the memorial that day. Some commented on their heritage from Iris

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immigrants who created lives in the U.S. around the Civil War and immediately enlisted in the U.S. forces.

"I think there is something to be said about immigrants and what they contribute to our country," said a resident at the O'Connell memorial.

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Sen. Jason Lewis, Mass. Senate strengthen fair housing protections for renters, buyers

The following was submitted by the Office of Sen. Jason Lewis: State Sen. Jason Lewis joined his colleagues in the Massachusetts Senate to pass legislation that protects residents from discrimination in the housing market as the Trump administration abandons its enforcement of the federal Fair Housing Act. Illegal discrimination continues

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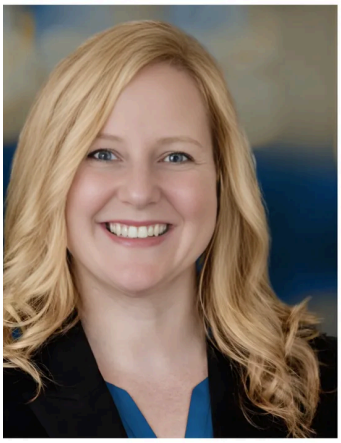

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'Chicago: Teen Edition' dances onto the Winchester High School stage

By Talia Ho | Correspondent Fame. Fortune. And all that jazz. This spring, Winchester High School presents "Chicago: Teen Edition," a bold musical that explores celebrity culture, media manipulation, and the cost of ambition. Set in the 1920s, this iconic production is sure to leave the audience wanting more. Performances will

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Ripley Chapel in Winchester presents 'Syldason: You Are Welcome Here'

The following was submitted by the Ripley Chapel at First Congregational Church: On Friday, March 13, beginning at 7:30 p.m., live in-person and live streamed from the stunning Ripley Chapel at First Congregational Church, Winchester, 21 Church St., join in with Syldason, a duo concert featuring Sylvie Zakarian,

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